NEWMARKET news

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Organ donor honour for little baby Hope

Posthumous award recognises gift of life

FREYA **LENG**
@freyalengCN

A NEWBORN baby girl who became the UK's youngest organ donor after she tragically passed away a little over an hour after she was born has been recognised with an award posthumously.

Inspirational Hope Lee, of Beaverbrook Road, Newmarket, was awarded the Order of St John award for Organ Donation, run in conjunction with NHS Blood and Transplant, for "the selfless contribution of adding life and giving hope to others from the gift of organ donation".

Her award is one of a number to recognise the 1,364 people who donated their organs after death last year, leading to thousands of patients' lives being saved or transformed.

Emma Lee, 33, gave birth to twins Hope and Josh in November, 2015, who were born just two minutes apart at 37 weeks.

But sadly for Emma and her husband Drew, 52, they found out 13 weeks into the pregnancy that Hope had Anencephaly, a condition which prevents the brain and skull from developing properly.

Doctors offered the option to abort the little girl but the couple decided to continue with the pregnancy and donate her organs when the time came – something which is particularly rare in someone so young.

Their brave decision meant Hope's kidneys have gone to an adult and she was also able to donate liver cells to treat patients waiting for a liver transplant.

"It's a nice thing to remember her by," Drew told the *News*. "It's recognition of what she's done.

"Josh is brilliant, he's walking and talking a little bit and he waves at people and runs about. He's so cute as well. He's doing really well. The sad part of that, we wonder what Hope would be like.

"It's the biggest thing we could ever do, it's nice to know Hope came into this world and definitely had a purpose. It was a short life but she made a big splash."

Drew – who has another daughter Madie, 5, with Emma, – said that while the loss of Hope had put a huge emotional strain on both of them, it had not stopped their tireless campaigning for England to adopt the Welsh hospital plan that presumes patients do consent to organ retrieval upon death.

They even took their campaign to Downing Street, first emailing former Prime Minister David Cameron earlier this year and then contacting his successor, Theresa May.

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SUPPORT: Drew and Emma Lee with Madie and Josh

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ABTA The Travel Association

LIT UP: Liam Collis with the cheque outside his house covered with Christmas lights

Teen raises over £1,000 for charity

A NEWMARKET teenager has raised £1,400 for a cancer charity after covering his home with Christmas lights.

Liam Collis, 17, of Brickfields Avenue, raised money for Macmillan Cancer Support after his dad and grandad lost their battles with cancer.

Liam has been accepting donations since December last year.

Liam told the *News*: "I'm really pleased. There were people coming every night putting money in the pot outside. I hope the money can help make a difference."

Nicola Clark, of Macmillan Cancer Support, said: "It's because of the amazing fundraising efforts of people like Liam that Macmillan can continue supporting people living with cancer. We can't thank Liam enough."

MUSEUM

Town museum fee 'too high'

SAMAR **MAGUIRE**
SamarMaguireCN

RESIDENTS have hit out at a town museum's admission costs, branding its £16.50 annual entry fee as "too high".

The National Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art at Palace House in Newmarket opened last September.

But residents believe that local people should have free entry or a discount.

A neighbour also wondered why a free tour was not offered to them after "putting up" with three years' of building work.

Andreia Correia, from Newmarket, said: "I had to put up with noise and dust for almost three years from lorries at 5am, to drilling till stupid hours of the night plus the three days of partying when it opened.

"Did we receive any kind of invite to go in? Nope. Not even a letter thanking our patience all that time."

Lynn Keutgen said: "We had friends over for New Year and were going to take them until we realised there was an entry fee of £16.50.

"It's lottery funded, it should be free to all. It would have been a nice gesture for all Newmarket residents to be able to use it free of charge."

The museum currently charges £16.50 for general admissions, £40 for two adults and up to four children (a family deal), £15.50 for concessions, £9.50 for children under 16, and is free for children under five.

Tickets that are bought directly from the museum can be converted at no extra cost to a one year pass.

A spokesperson for the National Heritage Centre said: "There is so much more to offer at the new National Heritage Centre. There are three different attractions in the National Horseracing Museum, Art Gallery in Palace House and the live horses. The general admission price of £16.50 is for an annual membership and we would hope that local residents will come back to enjoy the Heritage Centre as many times as they wish for free within the year. The King's Yard is open free of charge for any members of the public to enjoy as is The Tack Room, bakery and Palace House shop. If anyone has any concerns then please get in touch and we will act accordingly."

To comment on this story visit cambridge-news.co.uk/all-about/newmarket

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ACCIDENTS

Airman dies in car crash

AN RAF Lakenheath serviceman who died in a crash in Norfolk last Thursday has been named.

Senior Airman Juan Gutierrez, 21, was killed on the B1106 Lynn Road near Weeting in Norfolk when his BMW 323 convertible left the road and crashed into a tree.

The crash took place around 6.40am and Senior Airman Gutierrez was pronounced dead at the scene.

The 21-year-old was an assistant dedicated crew chief assigned to the 748th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

He had been stationed at RAF Lakenheath since November 2015.

"Our hearts are heavy with the loss of Senior Airman Gutierrez," said Col Evan Pettus, 48th Fighter Wing commander.

"Everyone here is thinking of his friends and family during this devastating time. He will be sorely missed by the RAF Lakenheath community and all who knew him.

"Our sympathies and prayers are with this airman's friends, family and fellow wingmen in the 748th AMXS."

The road was closed while emergency services dealt with the incident and was reopened around 12.40pm.

Norfolk police are investigating the incident. They are keen to hear from anyone who witnessed the collision or has information about how the BMW was driving before the crash.

If you have information call Norfolk's Serious Collision Investigation Team at Wymondham on 101.

Tributes for mother killed while out on training run

LOVED LIFE: Claire Taylor was in training for the Rome Marathon in April

JOSH **THOMAS**
@JoshThomasCN

A FAMILY have paid tribute to a "much-loved wife, mother, daughter and sister" who was killed in a collision.

"Kind and understanding" Claire Taylor, 41, from Great Bradley, died on Tuesday, December 27, after being hit by a car.

It is thought she was out training for a marathon when the accident happened.

Police were called about 10.10am to reports of a crash involving a Vauxhall Corsa and a pedestrian on the B1061 at Great Bradley, near Newmarket.

Claire died at the scene, despite the efforts of ambulance personnel and police.

Claire's family have paid tribute to the keen runner, who had been training for the Rome Marathon.

In a statement, they said: "Claire is a much-loved wife, mother, daughter and sister.

"Claire loved life in all its many facets, kind and understanding to all her family, both near and far, friends and work colleagues.

"Claire was training hard for the Rome Marathon that she was running in April 2017, her training was going well and she was on target.

"Claire will be sorely missed by all who knew her but especially her husband, two children, mother and family."

John Barnett, clerk of Great Bradley Parish Council, expressed sadness at the death, but said such events were "extremely unusual" in the village.

"Country roads can be dangerous," he said. "It is very sad to hear someone has died."

An investigation has now been launched to determine the cause of the accident, and police are calling for help from the public.

A Suffolk Police spokesman urged anyone who had witnessed the accident to get in touch.

The spokesman said: "Witnesses are asked to call the Serious Collision Investigation Team on 101 quoting CAD 105."

There were traffic delays on December 27 as the road was closed while officers tried to find more information about the collision.

The air ambulance was also called.

An East of England Ambulance Service spokesman told the *News*: "We were called at 10.18am to the B1061 to a report of a collision between a car and pedestrian.

"A rapid response vehicle, ambulance crew, ambulance officer and East Anglian Air Ambulance attended."

HONOUR

Couple raising awareness of the importance of organ donation

From front page

"I'm not going to let it drop," he said. "I'm going to continue badgering the government and find out what their stance is. Wales have made quite a lot of difference.

"Last year, 60 extra people were saved through donation which makes a difference to 60 donors, 60 lives".

Since Hope died – and became the UK's youngest organ donor – Drew and Emma have been raising awareness of the importance of organ donation on television, in national newspapers and radio as well as working with NHS Blood and Transplant to tell their story.

Just born: Hope and Josh Lee

"It's been continuous, there isn't a month that goes by without someone wanting to know something which is good in a lot of ways," said Drew, who is currently writing a book about their experiences with Hope.

"It's been a very hard journey but it's been a very rewarding journey.

"Josh survived which is one great thing because they were both in the same sac, we may have lost them both.

"We've grieved at different times. It's very difficult to say 'I'm angry, I'm upset' as how can I be angry with the situation where you've lost a child but give life to someone else?

"It's trying to understand the grieving process, it comes in many stages."

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What made headline

Samar Maguire takes a look back at some of the stories we reported on last year

JANUARY

■ Lord Derby, who submitted an application for 400 homes at Hatchfield Farm in Newmarket, announced he would provide additional land for 100 homes exclusively for racing staff.

■ Areas in Newmarket were flooded after heavy rainfall, including The Avenue, Tattersalls and the Yellow Brick Road.

■ The Ministry of Defence announced it would sell off part of RAF Mildenhall to generate land for possibly 4,000 new homes.

■ A 17-year-old girl who started a fire that cost Exning School £300,000 in damages avoided jail. She had been drinking heavily when she set light to plastic cups in a storage shed.

FEBRUARY

■ A "volatile" guest threatened to cut the throat of a Good Samaritan who had given him shelter at his home in a bid to help him overcome his problems.

■ Newmarket Railway Station was officially reopened after a £100,000 investment.

■ It was announced that Cambridge United fan Simon Dobbin would be returning to his Mildenhall home for the first time after being attacked a year ago.

MARCH

■ Disability group Leading Lives in Newmarket announced plans to close after a "drastic" drop in funding.

■ Serviceman Vicente Gomez from RAF Mildenhall was given a medal in recognition of his bravery after pulling drivers to safety following a potentially fatal 'fireball' crash.

■ An arsonist set fire to a shop in Mildenhall.

■ Family and friends of Simon Dobbin took part in a 12-mile walk to mark 12 months since he was attacked.

APRIL

■ Residents in Newmarket started the fight against an application for a warehouse near their homes for a second time, claiming it would be too big and noisy.

■ Plans for a Newmarket Business Improvement District were approved by local firms in a vote.

■ A memorial tree in Newmarket dedicated to a late wife and parents was cut down with no prior warning. The tree was felled for the statue of the Queen in Birdcage Walk. Then mayor Cllr John Berry described the events as a "sorry episode".

■ An article depicting a "darker side" to Newmarket's horseracing industry attracted criticism and a "ripple of debate" in the town. The article stated that the town has a big problem with drug-taking among racing staff.

■ Newmarket Police Station's front counter was closed to the public. Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore said the closure was "certainly regrettable and sad, because it represented a break with tradition".

MAY

■ It was announced that the National Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art will officially open in September.

■ A mother whose son died in a horrific car crash set up 'the Blerch Sporting Foundation' in his memory to provide free opportunities for children in Mildenhall to try sport.

■ ISIS supporter Junead Khan was jailed for life after plotting to carry out a terrorist attack at USAF bases in East Anglia. He appealed and was given a lesser sentence later in the year, as he did not follow through with the plans.

■ A report found that no-one was to blame for the felling of a memorial tree without prior warning to its owners.

JUNE

■ Concerns mounted over plans to close the Weatherby Level Crossing in Newmarket. Network Rail announced plans to close the crossing among 130 others across Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Essex.

■ Airman Master Sergeant Nathan Rhoden from RAF Mildenhall was hailed a hero after helping to save a pilot in a microlight crash.

■ Suffolk County Council announced plans to change a horse walk in Snailwell Road after many residents complained the road alongside had been made too narrow. A horse was killed on Snailwell Road the previous month.

■ A row erupted at a church in Isleham after pastor Paul Hedger delivered a sermon that "openly campaigned for the Brexit camp". The church leader defended his speech, saying he had a responsibility to inform them of God's "views".

JULY

■ Footballer Shaun Whiter, 27, from Burrough Green, had both his legs amputated after being involved in a hit-and-run accident in Newmarket. Footballer Joey Abbs was also injured. A father of two was later arrested.

■ The Business Improvement District was officially launched in Newmarket.

■ Newmarket celebrated its "biggest carnival ever" as thousands flocked to the town.

■ A total of 13 men were summonsed to appear in court in connection with the incident which left Cambridge United fan Simon Dobbin with life-changing injuries.

AUGUST

■ Motorist Louie Howlett, 21, was caught speeding at 154mph on the A11 and was fined and banned from driving for 56 days.

■ Beech House Hospital in Newmarket announced plans to close its doors, with the loss of 72 jobs.

■ Father-of-two Jan Adamec, 40, pleaded guilty to a hit-and-run accident which left footballer Shaun Whiter needing both his legs amputated from the knee down. He would be jailed in September.

■ A £14.5 million solar farm owned by Forest Heath District Council was unveiled in Lakenheath.

CONTROVERSIAL HOUSING: Lord Derby had an eventful year after his Hatchfield Farm planning application was rejected by the Secretary of State

MEDAL OF HONOUR: VIcentre Gomez from RAF Mildenhall is presented with his bravery award

WELCOME HOME: Simon Dobbin made an appearance at Cambridge United more than a year after his life-changing injuries

news in 2016

SEPTEMBER

■ The government rejected Lord Derby's plans to build 400 homes at Hatchfield Farm in Newmarket. Sajid Javid, Minister for the Department of Communities and Local Government said the perception of harm to the Newmarket horseracing industry, with a view that an increase in traffic would risk horses being hurt, was enough to reject the application.

■ Airman Corrie McKeague went missing after a night out in Bury St Edmunds. His phone was traced to Barton Mills.

■ Newmarket Town Council pledged to support a cinema project for the town. The council put together a working group to discuss how the idea can be progressed.

■ The National Heritage Centre in Newmarket officially opened.

■ Godolphin and Newmarket Academy started a £250,000 partnership to improve career prospects for pupils.

OCTOBER

■ It was announced Her Majesty The Queen would be coming to Newmarket the following month to celebrate her 90th birthday.

■ Lord Derby announced plans to challenge the Secretary of State's rejection of Hatchfield Farm in the High Court.

■ Plans to move police officers and firefighters into a £575,000 shared headquarters were announced. The two emergency services would share the same base in Willie Snaith Road in Newmarket.

■ Cambridge United fan Simon Dobbin made an emotional homecoming, as he was welcomed back after his life-changing injuries to watch the U's play Portsmouth.

■ Bury St Edmunds magistrates' court closed its doors, meaning the nearest court is in Ipswich.

■ Forest Heath District Council decided not to appeal against the Secretary of State's decision to reject Hatchfield Farm and to focus on its Local Plan.

NOVEMBER

■ Newmarket jockey Freddy Tylicki was admitted to intensive care after an horrific accident at Kempton Park Racecourse. The jockey was paralysed from the waist down after a four-horse collision. A fundraiser raised £250k in a few days to support him in his recovery.

■ Newmarket welcomed The Queen as she unveiled a statue to celebrate her 90th birthday – after excited fans camped out overnight to see her.

■ The Ministry of Defence announced that RAF Mildenhall would not be required for British military use when the USAF leaves in 2023.

■ Bottisham Village College announced plans for a £16.7 million upgrade, including 22 new classrooms, an auditorium and a 4G AstroTurf pitch.

■ Hundreds of Newmarket residents attended the 100th Remembrance Day service to honour those who lost their lives in armed conflict.

■ Forest Heath District Council confirmed that talks were taking place with a company about opening a cinema in Newmarket.

DECEMBER

■ Newmarket Town Council voted to have its own PCSO. Mayor Cllr Andy Drummond described it as "one of the most important decisions the council had ever made."

■ Retailers hit out at the lack of Christmas lights in the town. One retailer branded the display as "pathetic". Town councillors said the lack of Christmas lights was down to health and safety reasons. Councillors added that the situation was "regrettable".

■ Newmarket Town Council announced a new £4,000 investment in High Street Christmas lights.

■ Injured jockey Freddy Tylicki left hospital in time for Christmas to start his rehabilitation.

■ Thousands of people turned out for the town festival Winter Wonderland, which included a parade with festively dressed camels and Spark! the illuminated band.

WINTER WONDERLAND: Thousands of people visited the town to see, among other attractions, the illuminated band Spark!

ROYAL VISIT: Her Majesty The Queen visited Newmarket to unveil a statue of herself and celebrate her special relationship with the town

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Your pictures

WINTER WALK: A Boxing Day stroll between Burwell and Reach inspired this photograph by Maggie Newman from Burwell

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Time to stamp out the hunts

REGARDING the Boxing Day fox hunts, the longing to chase a dumb animal to the point of exhaustion for fun really is beyond comprehension. Is it a desperate need for the inadequate to bring some meaning to their dull lives?

Whatever the reason, these sad individuals congregate like pantomime clowns in front of their drooling camp followers broadcasting to all those who will listen that no one tells them what to do.

One day fox hunting and its mouthpiece, the Countryside Alliance, will splutter and die like a damp firework, and for all those with a spark of compassion, that day cannot come too soon.

Mike Michalak

Swaffham Road
Burwell

Our historic town is unique

MY love of horses brought me to Newmarket, riding out in all weather, caring for them all equally.

Why don't some people understand this is a unique historic racing town?

The proposed houses on Hatchfield Farm would not, I think, have helped our town. I expect many would have shopped at Tesco's before or after driving on the motorway to work in the ever-expanding Cambridge. The houses in Hamilton Road are for stable staff.

And why do some people object to horses' welfare. Very good veterinary attention is readily available, and ambulances for horses and humans. Who shall pay for a nearer A&E.

Mz Yvonne Zellen
Newmarket

Dog with a bone to pick

I WAS on this field the other day with a couple of my pals, Theo, another Border Collie and Bailey a German Shepherd. Any old how we was a 'discussin' the situation and how we along with our masters are going to miss it if them thar horse people build them houses.

"Them there horse people think they own the place," said Theo, and Bailey pointed out, "Trouble is they do!"

Now, I know a lot of them thar horse people, not the ones with the big cars and houses, them that knows what's best for us. I knows the ones that makes the money for 'em and they knows me, (I'm the good lookin' one) and we see each other most mornings. Though the environment is a joy we all share that don't seem an easy job, an' some them thar horses are frisky, so I lie down when they pass.

Any old road, it's a funny old world I told my pals, there are some o' them there inner cities 'd give their eye teeth to have a beautiful wildlife amenity like this in their concrete jungles and here we are with that self-same amenity about to cover it in concrete!

As my old master says, "Musn't grumble," but I say again, it's a funny old world innit?

Nelson the Dog
Mr K Hugman
Churchill Avenue
Newmarket

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Mildenhall

MILDENHALL & District Probus Club
At their penultimate meeting before the holiday break, members were treated to quite a long, albeit very interesting talk when they met in the social club.

The speaker was Mr Murray Brown, from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. He covered under the title "RSPB in the Brecks" a wide range of topics of both flora and fauna, not to mention the geography and unique climate of this area on the Norfolk/Suffolk border around Thetford.

Helped by some splendid photographs, Mr Brown explained fully the geology of the area, specifically referring to the gradual changes of use in the land, notably when the Normans brought the rabbit into this country. He also referred to the effects of the earlier Ice Age years as they carved out the area, with the well-known pingos being left behind.

There were numerous questions asked, with Mr Brown happily staying until after the club had finished its business session.

The latter mainly referred to the Christmas lunch the previous week, attended by members, wives, and partners, arranged by the social secretary Mike Philcox, who was once again warmly thanked by the chairman and his fellow members. Most pleased was the club treasurer who also congratulated the organisers, both of the meal itself and of the raffle which was equally successful.

The next social outing event will be held on March 8 at Quy, while the club itself will convene again on January 9 at the social club, when the speaker will be Jonathan London, his topic being Shades of Light.

John Barker

POLICE

Corrie: What we know so far

Airman Corrie McKeague disappeared after a night out in September last year. But what has been going on since then in the quest to find him? Freya Leng reports.

SINCE Corrie McKeague disappeared after a night out with friends on Saturday, September 24, in Bury St Edmunds, no-one has seen or heard from him.

His disappearance was reported by RAF Honington to police on Monday, September 26, when he failed to show at parade at 11.30am.

But his whereabouts have continued to elude police ever since.

They first informed the media of his disappearance on Tuesday, September 27, and released CCTV footage of him in Brentgovel Street the next day. Since then:

● **October 4:** It is revealed that his mobile phone has been tracked moving 12 miles (19km) away to Barton Mills hours after he was last seen.

● **October 21:** Further footage is released, showing his last confirmed sighting.

● **October 24:** A driver reports seeing a man walking near the Hollow Road industrial estate on the day Mr McKeague disappeared.

● **November 15:** Part of the A14 near Bury St Edmunds is closed while police carry out a roadside search.

● **December 5:** His grandparents Mary and Oliver McKeague offer a "five-figure" reward for information leading to his discovery.

● **December 6:** A crowdfunding campaign to hire a private investigator to search for Mr McKeague raises £20,000 within two days and police release CCTV footage of 10 people they want to speak to.

● **December 7:** Mr McKeague's mother, Nicola Urquhart, offers a £50,000 reward, made possible by an anonymous local business couple.

● **December 9:** Mrs Urquhart says she has "lost faith" in police over their search for her son.

● **December 16:** Outgoing RAF Honington commander Group Captain Mick Smeath speaks of Mr Mckeague's friends' hopes that he will be found.

● **December 17:** A search organised by Mrs Urquhart takes place at an area of forest near RAF Honington.

● **December 28:** During a Facebook Live question and answer session, Mrs Urquhart calls her son a "social hand grenade" who would get into a stranger's car and put himself at risk.

● **December 29:** Bros singer Matt Goss tweets support for the appeal.

● **December 31:** Mr Mc Keague's family release a video of him. He is shown singing along to a song from the musical *Wicked* in August, while "sitting in the garden in the sunshine". Mrs Urquhart says that although it is hard to share the video, she wants everyone to see "the beautiful soul that we desperately miss". She says: "It makes me smile every time I watch this. He likes to make people laugh, he is just so charming."

APPEAL: Corrie's mother Nicola Urquhart has continued to work hard in the search for her son, who disappeared in September

Live updates at cambridge-news.co.uk

MISSING: Corrie McKeague vanished after a night out in Bury St Edmunds. Below: This image shows him in Brentgovel Street on the night he disappeared

POLICE

Commissioner seeks 'fairer deal'

SUFFOLK's Police and Crime Commissioner has launched a campaign to get the county force more money.

Tim Passmore does not believe the region gets a "fair" financial settlement per year.

This comes after the Home Office reduced its grant for this year's Suffolk policing budget by £889,000.

Mr Passmore told the *News*: "The Metropolitan police gets £2.5 billion per year. The West Midlands or Manchester, on a head-to-head basis, get way more than we do, which I don't think is reasonable or acceptable.

"We get £122 million per year. If we got an extra four or five million pounds a year it would make a tremendous difference here.

"It's my job to ensure Suffolk taxpayers get the very best value for money for policing in the country. At the moment I don't believe we get a reasonable share of funding so I am launching this campaign to get public support to make a case to Government for a fairer settlement."

The policing minister, Brandon Lewis, will have a fundamental review of the funding formula this year.

Mr Passmore welcomes the review as it will allow him to lobby for a new formula.

The PCC is asking people to go to his website to read his assessment and, if they agree, to show their support by emailing *fairshareforsuffolk@suffolk.pnn.police.uk* by Friday, January 20.

Mr Passmore will use these public responses as evidence to lobby the minister for a fairer deal for Suffolk.

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Deaths

BURSFORD
Richard Peter

It is with great sadness that I have to announce the untimely death of my wonderful husband Richard at the age of 63. Richard battled with cancer for a year. He died in the care of the Arthur Rank Hospice on the 19th December 2016. The funeral will be taking place on Thursday 12th January 2017 at 11.15am and will be held at the West Suffolk Crematorium Risby Please could any donations go to the Arthur Rank Hospice Cherry Hinton Road Cambridge rather than flowers.

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ENERGY

Solar farm set to generate £1m per year for council

To comment on this story visit cambridge-news.co.uk/all-about/ely

POWER PANELS: The new solar farm near Triangle Farm in Soham

ANNA **SAVVA**
@AnnaSavvaCN

A SOLAR farm scheme is set to generate more than £1 million a year for Cambridgeshire County Council.

The council-owned 60-acre site near Triangle Farm in Soham is now producing enough energy to power around 3,500 homes.

The site started generating electricity the week beginning December 18 .

Income from selling the electricity will be used to fund the council's frontline services. Long term, the authority is expecting to make £1 million per annum from the scheme.

The move is part of the council's drive to find new ways of producing income and also helps provide renewable energy at a time when the county has the fastest population growth in the country.

The site is built, with co-operation from the tenant farmer, on Grade 3 agricultural land, putting it at the lower end of land quality in Cambridgeshire.

It is intended to keep the panels in place for 25 years – but that period could be extended.

County councillor Steve Count, chairman of the general purposes committee, said: "This county council project is a great investment as it means we are producing renewable energy and income while reducing the need to either make cuts or ask our residents to make it up through taxes.

"But this is just one example of what we are doing to make the best use of our assets. For example, through the Mobilising Local Energy Investment project we have a commitment to invest £28 million in similar projects that help make schools and other public buildings more energy efficient. This is not restricted to solar energy.

"These measures not just save us money but our partners and schools so they can spend their limited budgets on helping the people of Cambridgeshire."

HONOURS

Regional heroes given New Year Honours

A NEWMARKET-based racehorse trainer and a community worker were among those receiving awards in the New Year's Honours list.

John Harry Martin Gosden was awarded an Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to horseracing and training.

Mr Gosden trains at Clarehaven Stables in Newmarket and has had more than 3,000 wins, including winners of the Breeders' Cup Classic, the Derby, the Arc, the King George and the Eclipse races.

He has also been named the champion trainer in Britain twice.

He told the *News*: "I'd like to thank owners and breeders of the horses that have been kind enough to lend to me to train, both in America where I started training, and Europe and worldwide. Without them nothing would have been possible.

"Furthermore, to thank the people who have worked for me and with me down the years.

"And finally, to the horses of various abilities which won races for our stables."

Jane Green, from Dalham, near Newmarket, received a British Empire Medal.

She has spent 27 years supporting St Mary the Virgin Church in Dalham.

More recently, she raised £100,000 after lead thieves stripped most of the roof of the church in 2014.

She said: "It was a bit overwhelming really. It's hard to know what to say because it's such a surprise.

"I wish to preserve what is one of the most outstanding historical heritages in the parish – a 1,300 medieval church, which does need attention every now and again.

"I have a dogged determination to get on with things really – it's a value system that I got from my parents."

The New Years Honours recognise the achievements and service of "extraordinary people" across the United Kingdom.

There are 24 ranks of honours that are awarded by Her Majesty the Queen.

EVENT

Talk to help cancer charity

THE Ladies Open Door Club will host an evening event this month, featuring a special talk from Peter Cresswell.

The event will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday, January 12, at All Saints School in Newmarket.

Mr Cresswell, a Newmarket-based councillor for East Cambridgeshire District Council, is a former theatre and entertainment manager.

Newmarket-based, Mr Cresswell will be telling stories about his encounters with comedians such as Morecambe and Wise and Sir Ken Dodd.

Mr Cresswell gives talks to raise money for CLIC Sargent, a cancer charity for children and young people.

RETAIL

QUALITY SERVICE: From left, Angela Denness, Benn Basham and Frank Thomas, manager. Picture: David Johnson

New fish and chippy serves up 10 jobs

SAMAR **MAGUIRE**
@SamarMaguireCN

A NEW fish and chip shop has opened in Newmarket, offering 10 full and part-time jobs.

Deep Blue opened in Market Street on Tuesday, December 20, on the site of a branch of Harry Ramsden's which closed 10 months after it opened last February.

James Low, CEO of Deep Blue, told the *News*: "We completed a transaction a number of days before the site re-opened, so we effectively had all hands on deck to try and open as we did just in time for Christmas.

"We're absolutely delighted. We know it has been a fish and chip shop for many years, and one of our objectives is to bring back better quality service than there has been in the past.

"There will be a team of about 10 people, and we're getting some of the old crew that worked here many years ago.

"The manager is a guy called Frank Thomas and he knows the area like the back of his hand because he is a local."

He added that the business would be introducing a delivery service in 2017, but could not say exactly when.

Deep Blue opened its first fish and chip shop in 2003 and currently has 18 open in the UK.

The company prides itself on sourcing fish from sustainable and well-managed fish stocks.

It also sources its potatoes from farms in the Cambridgeshire Fens.

Harry Ramsden's opened its doors in Market Street last February 8, but closed in December claiming the outlet was "no longer viable".

It opened at the former site of the Central Fish Bar, offered takeaways and sit-in dining for up to 50 people.

The business also offered up to 15 full and part-time jobs.

Tom Crowley, CEO of Boparan Restaurant Group, said: "As a business, we regularly review our formats, locations and sites and it has been decided that, this outlet is no longer viable for Harry Ramsden's as the brand evolves, however, we wish the new operators well.

"Moving forward, we continue to focus on identifying more suitable locations throughout the UK and overseas for Harry Ramden's."

To comment on this story visit cambridge-news.co.uk/all-about/newmarket

ACCIDENT

Man is bailed after three-car collision

A MAN who was arrested after a crash near Newmarket that left a woman seriously injured has been released on police bail.

Emergency services attended the three-vehicle pile-up, on the A1065 between Barton Mills and Eriswell, at 2.30pm last Friday.

A woman who was in a car that had overturned in some trees was airlifted to Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge where she remains in a serious but stable condition.

A man in his late 20s from the Norwich area was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence of drugs.

He has now been released on police bail until February 7.

The road was closed at the junction between the B1112 and the Fiveways roundabout after the crash.

Police believe the vehicles involved in the collision were a black Audi A4, a black Renault Megane and a black Ford Mondeo.

They are asking anyone who may has seen the collision, or the way any of the cars were driving beforehand, to get in touch.

Call Suffolk Police on 101, quoting CAD 213 of Friday, December 30.

PLANNING

Local Plan comments needed

RESIDENTS and businesses are being urged to have their say on Forest Heath District Council's draft Local Plan from next week.

People are being asked to see if the plans are "legal and sound" before Forest Heath submits them to the government in March.

The plans would see the council take control over the growth of the area, including proposals for more than 6,800 homes over the next 14 years.

The authority has also organised drop-in events in different areas around the district to take place over the next two months.

Cllr Lance Stanbury, Forest Heath cabinet member for planning and growth, said: "Residents and businesses throughout the district have been working with us over the last three years to deliver this Local Plan.

"It promises to give control over speculative development and a way forward for sustainable and cohesive growth in our communities.

"This is the final push and I urge those with an interest in the future of Forest Heath to get involved."

From January 10, residents will be able to view what the plans mean for their neighbourhood by putting their postcode into the 'Find my nearest' search on the Forest Heath website.

If no material changes are made during the consultation, the final version will be submitted to the planning inspectorate in early March.

Public examination of the plans could follow in May or June, in time for the district council to consider adopting it in December.

Answers to questions can be found at *http://westsuffolk.jdi-consult.net/localplan*, by emailing *planning.policy@westsuffolk.gov.uk* or attending any of the drop-in events being held during the consultation period:

- **Mildenhall – 4-7pm on Tuesday, January 17, at the council offices in College Heath Road**
- **Lakenheath – 4-7pm on Thursday, January 26, at the Brendan Fulham Centre in High Street**
- **Newmarket – 4-7pm on Monday, January 30, at the Town Council Offices in High Street**
- **Red Lodge – 4-7pm on Thursday, February 2, at Red Lodge Sports Pavilion, Hundred Acre Way**
- **Brandon – 4-7pm on Thursday, February 9, at the Brandon Centre, Brandon Library.**

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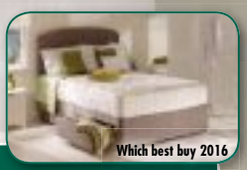

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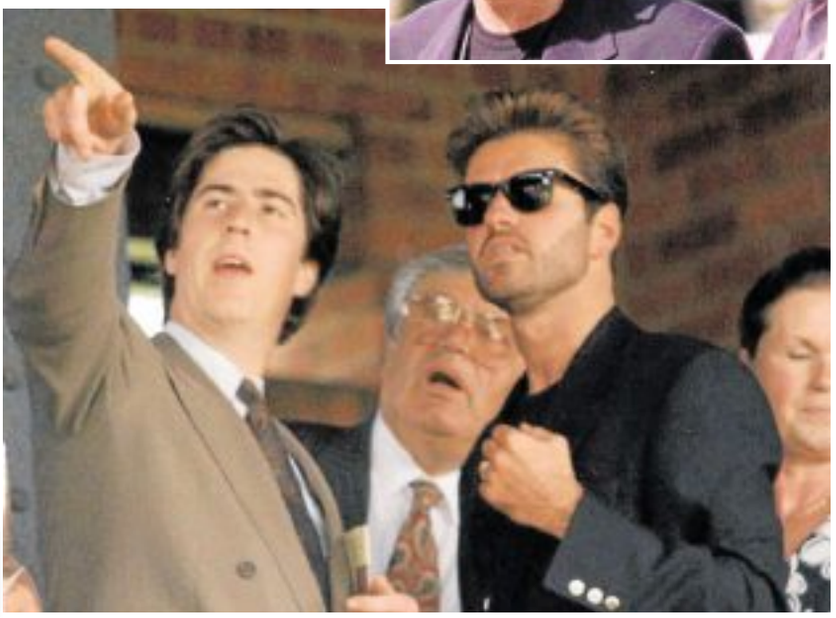
MEMORIES

When George Michael celebrated birthday



CHRIS **ELLIOT**
@ChrisElliotCN

AS the music world still mourns the shock death of pop megastar George Michael, our pictures here show him at a time of joy – his 30th birthday party, held at Newmarket Racecourse.

The singer, who died on Christmas Day, hired a massive marquee at the course on June 25, 1993, where he entertained a host of celebrity guests.

His father, Jack Panayiotou, ran the family's horseracing stud in Essex, and two of the horses from there were running that day.

The *News* took the photos here of George, reporting that he arrived at Newmarket with "a bevy of beauties and minders" and ventured in to the parade ring to watch the two horses before they took part in the race, in which they finished third and fourth.

Before the off, a Tote official was seen leaving George's marquee with "wads of banknotes" to bet on the race.

Among the guests there were ex-Wham! bandmate Andrew Ridgeley, and two members of girl band Bananarama, Keren Woodward and Sara Dallin.

Mr Panayiotou told our reporter at the time: "He hired the marquee to celebrate his birthday with us, his family, and a few showbiz friends. He doesn't actually bet very much."

At the time, George had just enjoyed his fifth UK number 1 chart hit, *Five Live*, an EP featuring songs by Queen, recorded live at a tribute concert for Freddie Mercury, who had died 18 months earlier.

The singer's death, from suspected heart failure is being treated by police as "unexplained but not suspicious".

He sold more than 100 million albums throughout a career spanning almost four decades.

Big names from the world of entertainment paid tribute after hearing about his death, which came in a year that saw the music industry lose some of its biggest stars including Prince, David Bowie and Leonard Cohen.

Former Wham! bandmate Andrew Ridgeley said he was "heartbroken at the loss of my beloved friend Yog", an affectionate nickname used for the star.

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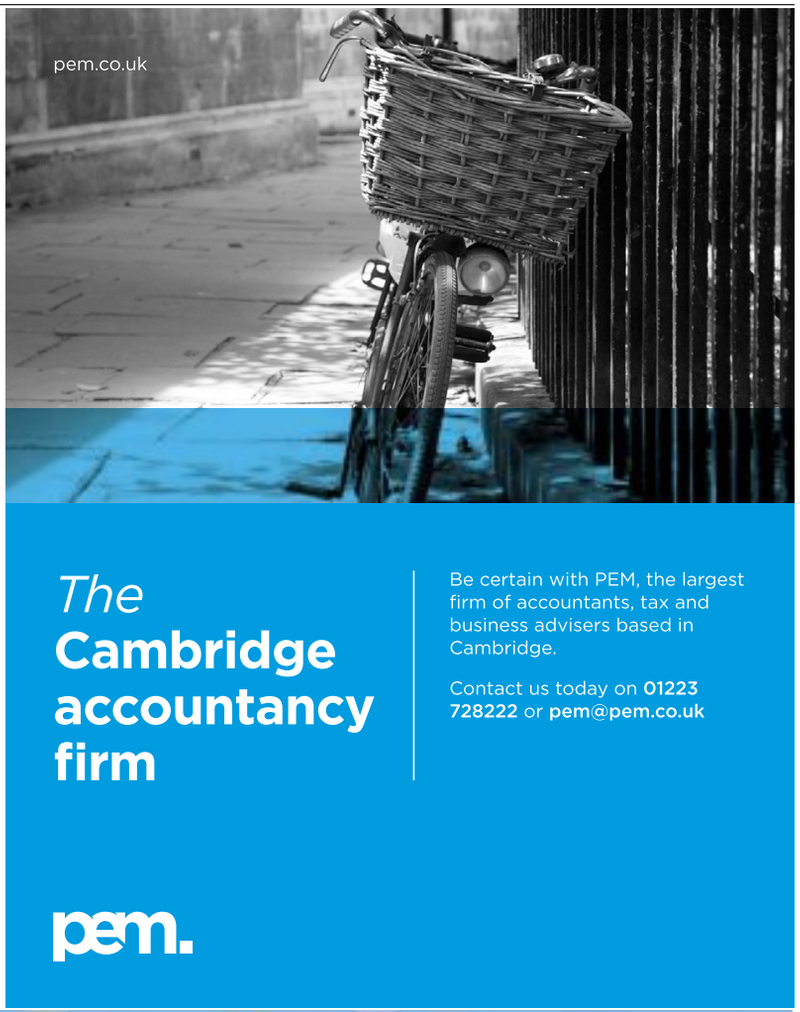
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HEALTH

£1m for hospital from parking

SAMAR **MAGUIRE**
SamarMaguireCN

WEST Suffolk Hospital made more than £1 million in parking charges last year.

West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust which runs the hospital earned £1,345,358 in 2015/16.

It has been revealed that NHS hospitals in England made more than £120m from charging patients, staff and visitors for parking last year.

Katherine Murphy, chief executive of the Patients Association, said it was unfair that hospital parking in Wales and Scotland was largely free but that patients in England were still forced to pay.

She said: "We take a very clear line that car parking fees need to be scrapped or strictly capped."

Overall, NHS trusts netted £120 million in 2015/16 in car park charges, up from £114 million the year before.

The Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust came out on top when it came to parking income, making £4,841,108 across the year.

This included £3,465,357 from patients and visitors and £1,375,751 from staff. Almost £40,000 was collected by the trust in car park fines.

Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge received almost £40,000 from parking charges last year.

Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital, earned £39,900 in 2015/16 and has made a total of £108,421 since 2014.

Many trusts defended their revenues, saying some or all of the money was put back into patient care or was spent on maintaining car parks or grounds.

Others claimed their sheer size and the fact that they served busy neighbourhoods meant they took more in revenue.

Jon Green, of West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust, said: "All income from parking comes straight to the trust to meet the cost of running our car parks. It also contributes to any improvements to parking we might make.

"We have a number of issues with the availability of car parking for both patients and staff at our West Suffolk Hospital site and have recently taken the decision to invest £2 million of our capital in extra spaces and improvement work, and are due to open an additional 400 spaces at the hospital in early 2017."

For more health stories visit cambridge-news.co.uk/all-about/newmarket

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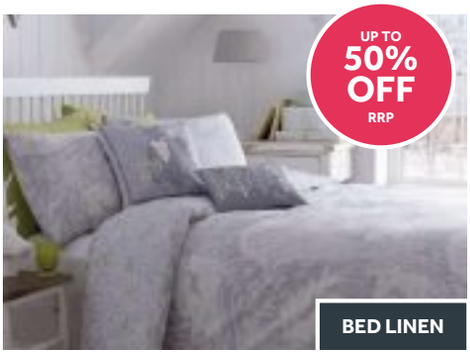

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MAKE IT HAPPEN 2017

Turn your home into a gym!

WATTBIKE: Probably the best home exercise bike on the market today

TURNING your home into an exercise zone is easier than you think – and you don't even need tons of space. With YouTube full of great workout videos, there really is no excuse. Abi Jackson runs down nine top home-gym gems...

■ TRX Home Gym, currently reduced from £149 to £119.20 (*trxtraining.co.uk*)

Change-up your body weight training with some addictive and mega-versatile suspension training. This kit's ideal for beginner and intermediate home users; quick and easy to set up (there's an anchor to set it up on a door) plus 15 and 30-minute workout cards and videos for top-to-toe sculpting and strength-building, you'll be 'hooked'.

■ Vibrostation, £399 (*vibrostation.co.uk*; 0800 999 3340) (Available to readers for half price until end of January with discount code 'savehalf')

Boasting maximum results with minimal effort, just 10 minutes on the Vibrostation promises to be the same as an hour at the gym. The vibrating plate engages almost 100% of the muscles in the body, and has been found to improve strength and coordination as well as boosting bone density and weight loss. Great for people needing low-impact workouts too.

■ Wattbike, £1,999 (*wattbike.com*)

Designed for cyclists, this is the creme de la creme of home exercise bikes (used by the likes of World Champions Lizzie Armitstead and Joanna Rowsell-Shand, apparently). Next-best-thing to battling those roads and hills for real, it's packed with smart features too so you can access workout and training plans and connect your apps.

■ Les Mills SMARTSTEP, £138 (*shop.lesmills.com*)

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Dubbed an 'advanced version' of the classic step, there's a non-slip surface, plus smart features with visual guides to help improve foot strike and positioning – meaning a safer and more effective workout.

■ Ab Roller And Kneeling Mat, £9.99 (*andrewjamesworldwide.com*)

Hone and tone the whole of your core with this easy to assemble ab roller that requires barely any space and disassembles to store and transport.

■ AmazonBasics 0.6 mm Yoga And Exercise Mat With Carrying Strap, £12.99 (*amazon.co.uk*)

A mat's a must for making those floor exercises more comfortable. This one's great value for money; thick and squishy and easy to store. Comes in a range of colours, too.

■ Argos Opti Silver Gymball, £5.49 (*argos.co.uk*)

Use this 55cm diameter ball to hone those abs and core muscles and improve your balance.

■ Bentley Fitness Kettle Bell, currently reduced from £17.99-£22.99 to £13.99-£16.99 (*buydirect4u.co.uk*)

Available in 6kg or 8kg, these neoprene rubber-coated kettle bells will help shake up your muscle-building and toning regime.

■ Weighted Fitness Hula Hoop, £14.99 (*andrewjamesworldwide.com*)

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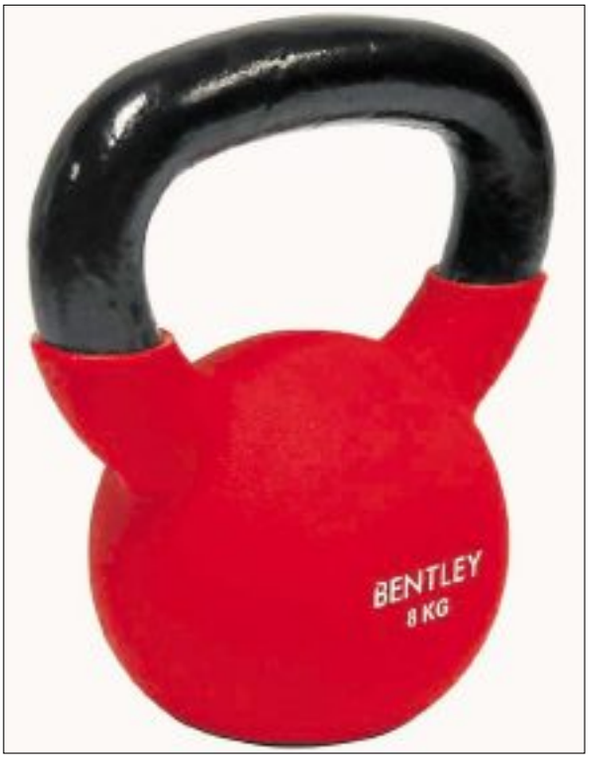

REDUCED: The Bentley Fitness Kettle Bell is now listed at £13.99-£16.99

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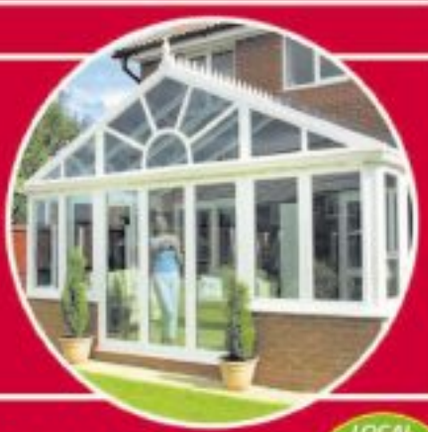

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MAKE IT HAPPEN 2017

Ways to create extra space

ADVERTISING FEATURE

IF finding room for last year's Christmas presents seems impossible, check out these ideas for increasing your home's storage space...

1. One room where storage is essential is the bedroom. While many of us dream of a walk-in wardrobe, most homes don't have space for one. The next best thing is built-in wardrobes, as they provide acres of space and are a more flexible storage solution than freestanding wardrobes. Fitted storage is particularly useful in awkwardly shaped rooms, such as loft bedrooms, where built-in wardrobes can make the most of the space, especially in the eaves. They are usually made to measure, so all the available space is used, and the interiors can be customised with drawers, shelves and hanging rails, etc, depending on your needs. The main downside is the price – fitted wardrobes typically cost thousands of pounds from a specialist company, although a carpenter will often make them for a lot less.

2. If your bedroom already has fitted wardrobes but the doors belong to another decade, simply replace them with more up-to-date ones (as long as the wardrobe interiors are fine). It's easy to get standard-sized or made-to-measure replacement wardrobe doors, especially online, giving you a great new look for a fraction of the price of new wardrobes. Alternatively, get a carpenter to make new doors for you.

3. In the kitchen, lack of storage can drive you to distraction. A larder is ideal, but may not be an option in a small kitchen, where it's really important to have clever storage and a well-designed layout. Kitchen showrooms and DIY stores can offer ingenious ways of making more of the space, including pull-out worktops, pull-out shelves/racks in larder units, carousels so you can easily access the back of corner units, and tall wall units that provide extra storage in kitchens with higher ceilings.

NEAT: Making use of all the available space in a room will give you an advantage

4. Away from the kitchen, there's potential to create storage space all over the home. Ideas include turning an understairs space into a cupboard, window seats with built-in storage, stairs that contain drawers, a vanity unit for extra bathroom storage, and built-in bookshelves and cupboards in alcoves; even a desk. With a bespoke home office, the space can be tailor-made for your computer, printer, files and more.

5. Some of the best storage is, of course, your home's loft. If you need to access it often, fitting a large loft hatch with a built-in ladder will make it much easier. You'll also need to board the loft (if it's not already boarded) before storing things up there. Use sheets of chipboard, or chipboard loft boards, which slot together. 'Soft' insulation (in rolls), such as mineral wool, shouldn't be compressed, though, so use loft legs to raise the floor level above the insulation – the recommended depth for mineral wool is 27cm. Another option is to lay rolls of insulation between the joists, but rigid insulation over them and chipboard on top – some rigid insulation has a chipboard top layer.

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MAKE IT HAPPEN 2017

Get your new year plot sorted!

AS the ground becomes unworkable, sit back with a notepad and plan a new vegetable plot for the New Year. Hannah Stephenson looks at the veg you can grow together and the importance of crop rotation....

Creating a vegetable patch, whether on a large piece of ground or within a smaller raised bed, can bring rich rewards if you plan carefully.

Growing compatible crops together is likely to reap richer harvests, while not treading soil from one bed to another and keeping your tools clean between use will help keep soil healthy and reduce the likelihood of the spread of pests and diseases.

The idea behind crop rotation is that you avoid planting the same crop in the same bit of ground more than one year in four to stop root diseases building up and to make the most of resources such as manure, which is only needed for certain crops but not for others (like root crops).

Crops which can be grown together include legumes (peas and beans), comprising peas and broad, French and runner beans; the onion family, including garlic, leeks, onions, shallots and spring onions; roots and tubers, including carrots, parsnips, beetroot, potatoes and tomatoes; and brassicas (cabbage family), featuring Brussels sprouts, cabbages, Chinese greens, pak choi, radish, cauliflowers, swedes and turnips.

Green veg which require regular watering can be separated from less thirsty root crops, lettuces are often grown with cabbage family crops as they need organic matter, nitrogen fertiliser and regular watering. Perennial veg like rhubarb and asparagus are best kept out of crop rotation beds.

Squeeze quick-growing crops of lettuce and other salad leaves wherever they will fit, using them as a catch crop between slower-growing types such as winter brassicas.

By swapping the main groups of vegetables around in a regular order, you can make best use of the nutrients in the soil because different crops need different amounts of nutrients.

If you're starting a new plot or creating raised vegetable beds, prepare the ground thoroughly, digging to break up compacted soil and weeding thoroughly. Then add bulky organic matter before planting season starts. It may be better to do this in spring, using compost as a surface mulch.

If you have an existing vegetable plot, dig it over each winter, inverting lumps of soil to bury annual weeds, but leave the clods intact. Frost and rain will break them down and leave a crumbly soil by spring. On light, sandy soils, wait until spring before digging. Sandy soils may also need liming regularly to give them a neutral pH. If in doubt, buy a soil tester to test the pH of your soil.

The four-year rotation is a good technique which is easy to plan. Divide your plot into four separate sections if you have space, and then operate a four-year rotation on each.

On smaller plots, conventional crop rotation is not practical, so just aim not to grow the same crop on the same patch of ground any more often than you need to. Separate the main crop groups as far as possible. Grow potatoes, onions and the cabbage family on a different area each year and fit other crops around them.

Keep a yearly plan as to what you have grown where – and you won't go far wrong.

RICH REWARDS: It's all about going back to the land....

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Sarah 07877 452954

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Studlands Park Sport & Social Club
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Larkfields Resource Centre
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Karen 01353 661771

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MAKE IT HAPPEN 2017

Children's tips on the money

CASHING UP: It's a good idea to give children experience of managing their pocket money

DID you have to do the washing up to earn pocket money as a child, or tidy your bedroom? While many adults have memories of scrubbing pans or vacuuming to get weekly handouts from their parents, it seems many children nowadays do not have much experience of "earning" cash.

More than one in four (27 per cent) parents of children aged under 12 do not give their children pocket money or financial rewards for carrying out household chores, according to new research. The survey, from the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS), reveals that only half (50 per cent) of parents pay their child regular pocket money.

And many of those who do give their children regular handouts do not give their child free rein to spend the cash how they like. More than half (54 per cent) of parents who give pocket money are concerned their child would simply buy chocolate and sweets if they could spend the money how they liked, while more than a third (37 per cent) say their child would buy something they don't really need.

Yet, as with setting children chores so they can earn their pocket money, allowing your child to have a small amount of money to spend how they like – even if this leads to them making mistakes – can help them build experience of handling money. They may even avoid making bigger financial mistakes when they're older as a result.

Rather than raiding their whole piggy bank, a small portion of cash could be set aside for a child to spend how they like, which could help them learn how to set a budget and stick to it.

Nearly a third (31 per cent) of parents say they tend to influence what their child buys with their pocket money, and 24 per cent encourage them to save for a larger purchase. But nearly four-fifths (79 per cent) of parents agreed that if children can engage with money from a young age, it would help them learn and appreciate its value.

Mark Oakes, head of communications at the FSCS, says: "It is a parent's choice how they want to get their child thinking about money, but giving them a little sum of their own to manage is a great way to start.

"They aren't going to get it right every time, but children need to be given the opportunity to make their own mistakes and learn for themselves."

Meanwhile, separate research suggests many children aren't confident about their money skills. Just over half (55 per cent) of children aged between seven and 15 years old worry about their lack of financial knowledge, a survey from NatWest has found.

The study, for NatWest's MoneySense financial education programme, found more than two-fifths (41 per cent) of parents don't talk about money management at all with their children.

Nearly two thirds (62 per cent) of parents also worry their child will grow up without a good grasp of managing money. So perhaps now's the time to sit down and start having those important money conversations.

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MAKE IT HAPPEN 2017

Recognising warning signs in pregnancy

A SHOCKING 15 babies a day die before, during or soon after birth in the UK. Although some of these tragic deaths are unavoidable, many could be prevented.

In addition, the UK has among the worst rates of maternal death in the developed world.

With such worrying figures, it's easy to understand why Best Beginnings, a charity that works to give children the best start in life, has launched an educational campaign to help reduce stillbirths and neonatal and maternal deaths.

The Our Chance campaign, which is run jointly with the stillbirth and neonatal death charity Sands, and supported by the model and presenter Abbey Clancy, aims to give mums-to-be advice about signs that could indicate the health of the baby or the mother is at risk.

"Pregnancy can be exciting or daunting, or even both at the same time," says mother-of-two Clancy, "but at the end of it, our only hope is that we'll be fine and, most importantly, have healthy babies.

"Sadly, things don't always go to plan, but there is so much we can do to reduce the risk of anything going wrong for us and for our babies."

Our Chance includes a series of 25 short films and personal stories told by women who have experienced problems in pregnancy or just after, ranging from the importance of going to antenatal classes, to the risks from smoking and drinking alcohol during pregnancy.

One of the women in the films is Shareen, who had itchy hands during pregnancy which turned out to be a symptom of the dangerous liver condition Intrahepatic Cholestasis of Pregnancy (ICP), which can lead to premature labour and stillbirth.

An Our Chance survey found that key warning signs of ICP and other dangerous conditions like pre-eclampsia are likely to be ignored by pregnant women.

Indeed, 47.9% of respondents thought sudden swelling of the ankles, hands and feet – pre-eclampsia symptoms – was common, and 42.5% believed itchy hands and feet was normal.

In addition, the survey found 58% of women thought a watery vaginal discharge was common or fairly normal during pregnancy, and almost 40% admitted they would be unlikely to seek advice about it.

Plus 28% of mothers-to-be think vaginal bleeding is common during pregnancy, when actually it can be a warning sign of miscarriage.

Another key warning sign of potential pregnancy problems is reduced foetal movement.

It is not true that babies move less in the latter stages of pregnancy, so if you think your baby is moving less than normal, see your midwife or doctor.

The Our Chance campaign maintains you shouldn't ignore changes in the baby's movements, signs of bleeding or watery discharge, swelling of the hands, feet and face, excessive itchiness, blurred vision and severe headaches.

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JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. **Tel: No: 0906 515 3008 Box: 409715**

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SUE, 60s lady, calling all gents who seek a mature solvent stylish lady, I can wine and dine you, you will have a nice time, call or text me. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424781**

TAMIKA, mature black beauty, hourglass figure and open minded. Pls call if you are discreet, broad minded and nice. I can travel and accommodate. ACA. **Tel: 0906 515 3004 Box 422365**

CALL or text me, I'm Claire, single, 41yrs loves life to the full, hoping you will contact me if you want a genuine fun time. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424779**

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LUCY, 49, just looking to enjoy life, can you help? seeks fun and good times in or out, nothing heavy just no strings meets. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424447**

JOY 30yr old Asian female, affectionate, good looking, many interests, WLTM romantic, affectionate man who knows just how to treat a very special lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424425**

HELEN, mid 50s naughty lady seeks some fun times with gent any age. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424493**

JACKIE, 56yrs, attractive lady who is lots of fun seeks like-minded gent for nights in, days out and much much more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424491**

DEBBIE, looking for LTR, hopefully to find my soul mate, I'm bubbly, caring and have a love of rock music, looking for some nice times and someone with a GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424135**

JEAN, mature lady, genuine with many hobbies, slim, blonde and attractive. WLTM interesting gent with GSOH, must be cheerful, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424675**

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GENUINE Cambridgeshire lady, 73, blonde, 5ft2, caring, active, enjoys country walks, gardening, eating out and cinema, seeking genuine, caring gentleman to share the same interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 421989**

WHERE have all the good single men gone? enjoy cinema, nights out, wining/dining, seeking special male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 411391**

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PIERS, 56yrs, romantic gent WLTM lady to wine, dine, spoil. I'm kind, caring, generous pls call me. Single mums welcome. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425331**

GENUINE gentleman, family minded, kind, generous seeks lady 55-75 for wining, dining and wine and laughter. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425329**

MALE 62 med build n/s GSOH kind caring many interests seeking female to spend good times and hopefully LTR. **Text only. Mailbox: 4631948**

MALE, 64, lazy and self-indulgent needs mature play-mate. Eclectic tastes and red lipstick a plus. **Text only. Mailbox: 5626044**

ROMANTIC Australian entrepreneur 49, seeks quality lady for romance and theatre. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 409191**

NEIL, entrepreneur, lived abroad most of my life, back in England now and looking for a lovely lady, 48 years upwards, to spend some time with. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 422331**

CARING 55yr old male, widower, 6ft 3ins, WLTM lady, 40-55 for fun and laughter, maybe happy ever after. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424677**

CHRIS, 49yrs honest gent seeks lady 45-55 for socialising, friendship, maybe leading to romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425345**

DAVID, 70s, n/s, medium height/build, young at heart, kind and caring, seeks lady with time to share life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425033**

PETER, sincere solvent gent 70s seeks lady to wine dine, foreign travel, all expenses paid. I would love a traveling companion. Genuine advertiser. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425343**

MALCOLM, 60 something gent, own hair and teeth, GSOH, genuine and Kind WLTM sincere lady to wine and dine. Please call. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425335**

PROFESSIONAL gent, 44yrs, tall, attractive and genuine. Seeks genuine feminine lady for genuine romance. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 425333**

WIDOWER, 73, GSOH, n/s, enjoys walking, restaurants and good company, hate being lonely, nobody to talk to, looking for a companion to share my life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 423961**

TERRY, 51, very kind male, enjoys cinema, eating out, live concerts, travel, WLTM loving lady, 38-55, for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 423945**

VERY kind male, 51, enjoys cinema, eating out, live concerts, travel, WLTM loving, n/s lady, 39-54, for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 422517**

HELLO ladies, I'm here for fun times with attractive like-minded gals. I have green eyes and a perfect body. **Text only. Mailbox: 5616400**

MALE 50 seeks mature, home loving lady, 60 plus who enjoys cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424683**

59YR old male, likes country walks, pub lunches, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424685**

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 424687**

YOUNG looking 30s male, five foot eight, slim, blonde hair, blue-eyes, looking for naughty 40s female, for adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 420513**

WILLIAM, 65 and young looking, fit and active, WLTM a slim, attractive Chinese/Asian lady, 35-50, for LTR and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 423041**

KIND male, 47, enjoys cinema, meals out, concerts, travel, seeks loving lady, 35-50 with similar interests for loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 400017**

LANDSCAPE builder, fun, loving, kind, wrong side of 40, seeking female for concrete relationship, age/race/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 421299**

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YOUNG, lean, athletic male, seeks elderly gentleman for nice walks in the park. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 420761**

SINGLE male, likes mopeds, seeks elderly gent for rides in the countryside. **Tel No: 0906 515 4438 Box No: 415223**

WHITE male 65, looking for a female, married or single of any nationality for some genuine discreet adult fun. Any age. **Text only. Mailbox: 5669789**

SIMON, 29yrs, gay curious, seeking older gent for new experiences, must be discreet as I live at home. **Text Only: Mailbox: 4196422**

BI guy 57 looking for bi guy or cd TV any age for friendship and fun. **Text only. Mailbox: 5614948**

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GARY BAINBRIDGE

One man's struggle with the 21st century. Follow Gary on Twitter @Gary_Bainbridge or email him at gary.bainbridge@trinitymirror.com

Another key moment in my life

THE thing about New Years is that they force you to take stock of your life.

They give you a chance to look back at the previous 12 months and see what you would have done differently, in order to make your life improve, to be a stronger you, a happier you.

For me, 2016 was a rickety roller coaster of exhilarating highs and devastating lows. And, looking back now, I know what I would have done better.

For example, I know that I would be a better, happier, and, crucially, richer person had I worn different trousers on Boxing Day.

When I got home from visiting on Christmas Eve, I changed into my "not going out" trousers. I will not attempt to describe these trousers, suffice to say they are built for comfort rather than style. It was only then I realised I had forgotten to buy satsumas, and what is Christmas without a small orange you can buy all year round?

I rushed to the nearest branch of Britain's Best-Loved Struggling Retailer and bought the necessary citrus globes, hoping that shoppers and staff would be too busy with Christmas preparations to ask questions about my trousers.

And then from Christmas Eve afternoon until Boxing Day I largely confined myself to my flat, in a brave and largely successful attempt to avoid ruining Christmas for everybody else.

But Boxing Day afternoon came around, and I had to go to work. The greatest divide in this country is not between Leavers and Remainers or Strictly fans and X-Factor fans. It is between those people who have to work every Bank Holiday and those who do not.

To people like me, the words "Boxing Day" do not mean "day of eating cheese and the rest of the Roses and seeing the relatives who didn't make the Christmas Day cut". They mean "day I still have to go to work, but there aren't any buses or trains when I want to come home."

I dressed for work, leaving behind my "not going out" trousers, and donning my "going out" trousers, and prepared to step out, blinking, into the light, like a mole emerging from Hollister.

And as I slammed my flat's door behind me, before the echo died away, I realised that my "going out" trousers had been transformed into my "going out and not getting back in" trousers.

For I had transferred my flat key from my "going out" trousers to my "not going out" trousers on Christmas Eve, and had completely forgotten that I needed to switch it back.

"Oh," I thought. "This is going to inconvenience me quite massively."

I wondered for a moment just how much locksmiths charge for a call-out on Boxing Day, but the calculation made my jaw ache, and I sat on the staircase leading up to my flat with my head in my hands. I was not going to let this beat me and I was certainly not going to shell out a load of money the day after Christmas.

I have seen enough films in my time. I flicked through my wallet and found a plastic card I do not need any more. Which, it transpired, was just as well.

Could I get into trouble for this, I wondered? Surely not, as it was my own flat.

I wiggled it into the gap between the door and the frame, and tried to fiddle the lock open. But it turns out that films are full of lies. My efforts were fruitless. On the bright side, I have now discovered a new and glamorous way to destroy expired credit cards.

I sat back on the stairs, like Kermit the Frog's nephew, Robin, and contacted my long-suffering colleagues to explain my temporary absence.

Eventually I got through to the emergency maintenance contractor, who told me that I would be paying time and a half for him to come round and let me in, because it was Boxing Day and nobody works on Boxing Day. I decided not to beg to differ, because I wanted to see the inside of my flat before 2017.

He arrived and let me in with his skeleton key. "Why didn't you lock the mortice?" he said, as he pushed the door open. "That's not very secure."

"Because I didn't have my key," I explained, as I handed over a cash sum roughly equivalent to my day's wages.

And at that moment I resolved that, in 2017, I would not forget the satsumas.

Turns out it is not actually possible to open a door with a credit card like they do in the movies

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FILM REVIEWS

With Damon Smith

Crafted with love: A Monster Calls

A MONSTER CALLS (12A)

★★★★★

ADAPTED by Patrick Ness from his award-winning novel, A Monster Calls will strike a chord with anyone who has lost a loved one to terminal illness.

"Most of us just get messily ever after... and that's all right," reflects one character in J.A. Bayona's haunting film, which witnesses the devastation of cancer through the eyes of a 13-year-old boy, who has yet to come to terms with the impending loss of a parent.

Reclusive schoolboy Conor O'Malley (Lewis MacDougall) is in denial about the dark shadow of cancer hanging over his mother Lizzie (Felicity Jones). He silently soaks up physical abuse at school from bullying classmate Harry (James Melville), and seeks refuge in his vivid illustrations.

As darkness falls and midnight strikes, the yew tree which stands guard over the nearby church magically comes to life and morphs into a gnarled creature (voiced by Liam Neeson). The behemoth visits Conor and promises to share three parables, asking only that Conor reveal his deepest nightmare in return.

Meanwhile, Conor struggles to articulate his churning maelstrom of fears to his well-to-do grandmother (Sigourney Weaver) and estranged father (Toby Kebbell).

A Monster Calls is an unforgettable start to the new year, crafted with love, tenderness and sensitivity.

In the hands of another filmmaker, the teenage protagonist's inner turmoil could provide a road map to emotional manipulation via mawkish sentimentality.

Spanish filmmaker Bayona, allows our tears to well gradually, rather than bludgeoning us into submission.

Edinburgh-born relative newcomer Lewis MacDougall is mesmerising as the film's fulcrum, bearing his character's fractured heart with impressive maturity.

Jones and Weaver offer sterling support, while impressive visual effects underline each haunting dramatic note. The catharsis of the final act is a thing of heartbreaking beauty.

I gave in to juddering sobs, remembering the loss of my mother to the same monstrous disease. Some wounds never heal, nor should they, for they are an important reminder of the fragility of our precious existence.

Marion Cotillard has little chance to impress in an underwritten supporting role

PAST MISTAKES

Muddled time travel tale about assassins misses the target

ASSASSIN'S CREED (12A)

★★★★★

BASED on a video game series, Assassin's Creed is a dour time-travelling fantasy that swiftly somersaults into incomprehensible absurdity.

We share the bewilderment of the lead character when he mumbles, "What the hell is going on?".

If the three screenwriters have the answer, they don't let on for almost two hours of special effects-laden hack and slash, that ebbs and flows between present-day Madrid and 1492 Andalucia.

Director Justin Kurzel, who recently helmed attractive leads Michael Fassbender and Marion Cotillard in his tour-de-force reimagining of Macbeth, is powerless to make sense of the digitally augmented muddle.

Battle sequences and protracted chases on foot, including daredevil leaps captured in slow motion, are stylishly staged to the relentless drum beat of composer Jed Kurzel's score.

For fans of interactive media, it's as grim and bloody as the 12A certificate will allow.

Unfortunately, like so many adaptations of video games, the film lacks the vicarious thrill of physically controlling a character and assuming personal responsibility for their fate.

Voyeurism has rarely been so tiresome.

A few hours after he is executed by lethal injection, Callum Lynch (Fassbender) wakes in a facility owned by biotechnology company Abstergo Industries, a front for the power-hungry Templar Order under the control of president Ellen Kaye (Charlotte Rampling). The convicted criminal learns he is the last in a long bloodline of valiant protectors – the Assassins – who have been at war with the Templars.

The company's Machiavellian CEO, Alan Rikkin (Jeremy Irons), is searching for an ancient artefact called the Apple of Eden, which was hidden by Callum's 15th-century Spanish relative, Aguilar de Nerha.

Using a device called the Animus, Rikkin and his scientist daughter Sofia (Cotillard) access genetic memories concealed in Callum's DNA to locate the missing artefact.

"What you're about to see, hear and feel are the memories of your ancestor who's been dead for 500 years," whispers Sofia. Vivid snapshots of the past flash before Callum's eyes and he relives each punch and stab as if he were Aguilar, fighting alongside fellow Assassin Maria (Ariane Labed).

Ricocheting back and forth in time, Callum realises he holds the power to his blood-spattered destiny.

Assassin's Creed employs earthy and metallic colour palettes to create an immediate visual distinction between the two timeframes.

Fassbender, credited as one of the film's producers, and Cotillard could deliver their lines in their sleep while Irons isn't even afforded an opportunity to chew scenery.

The plot makes little sense and there's no effort on the part of the script to tether the historical mumbo jumbo to a reality that non-game players can understand.

Kurzel delivers the required big budget spectacle and neatly sets up further instalments, but if this opening salvo is a signal of intent, it's already game over for Callum and his kin.

DVD RELEASES

THREE TO SEE

Missed it at the cinema or on TV? We round up the best DVD releases of the week

Monkey business: Kubo embarks on an epic quest with his simian helper

KUBO AND THE TWO STRINGS (PG)

★★★★★

KUBO (voiced by Art Parkinson) lives in a cave with his mother Sariatu (Charlize Theron), a sorceress whose powers have been drained protecting her son from his evil grandfather, Raiden (Ralph Fiennes). Under the cover of night, Kubo's evil aunts (Rooney Mara) launch a devastating attack. When the boy regains consciousness, his mother is gone and in her place is Monkey, who has been magically brought to life from a wooden charm. Consequently, Kubo and the primate embark on a noble quest to locate three magical items accompanied by a forgetful samurai called Beetle (Matthew McConaughey).

Home invasion: Daniel Zovatto and Stephen Lang star in Don't Breathe

DON'T BREATHE (15)

★★★★★

ROCKY (Jane Levy) and her little sister Diddy (Emma Bercovici) rob homes with boyfriend Money (Daniel Zovatto) and pal Alex (Dylan Minnette).

The trio believe that blind Army veteran Norman Nordstrom (Stephen Lang) has $300,000 in a safe in his ramshackle home so break in. They incapacitate the owner, but swiftly learn to their cost that Norman isn't helpless. He locks the exits, cuts the electricity and prepares to hunt his terrified prey in the dark using his heightened sense of hearing and smell.

Property news

04:01:17

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NEWMARKET news

This four bedroom property in Green Lane Linton is now on the market at a guide price of £425,000.

The property was formerly comprised of two semi-detached cottages and still features two entrance halls, two reception rooms, two kitchens and two bathrooms. It is a good opportunity for those looking for a refurbishment project, or an investment opportunity which would provide rental income.

The exterior of the property includes a rear garden laid to lawn with a paved terrace, shrub beds, garden shed, outside lighting and tap.

The property is located in the South Cambridgeshire village of Linton, in quick striking distance from schools, shops and a health centre, as well as plenty of transport links connecting to the centre of Cambridge.

For more details contact Jackson-Stops and Staff on (01638) 662231.

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Property news

A happy new property year?

2016 was a turbulent year for the property market. Neil Harris, Director, Cheffins in Newmarket comments:

"With stamp duty changes, Brexit, Trump and more recently the shock announcements around the lettings industry in the Autumn Statement, it has been quite a year for the property market. Despite the knocks, the property industry has shown its absolute resilience in the face of political and economic turmoil with sales reaching astronomic levels following both the Budget and the Brexit vote. As a thriving centre for innovation and investment, East Anglia and the Greater Cambridge region has shown how robust it is in spite of changes to the political and economic landscape.

In some ways, 2016 has been a year of two halves. January to April saw the strength of the buy-to-let market, with investment properties being snapped up by those looking to benefit from strong yields and capital gains, however following the Budget in April and Osborne's changes to SDLT the buy-to-let market somewhat cooled as investors took stock of their options. The summer months were busy. Following Brexit we had a marginally slower period, before record-breaking numbers of sales throughout our five offices from September to December. With the vast levels of investment being ploughed into the bio-tech and R&D sectors around the Greater Cambridge region, our population locally has grown and with that comes greater demand for housing. Never before has the level of demand against supply seen such disparity, which has in turn pushed up pricing across all sectors of the market. Additionally, new homes sales have been strong as we have seen greater quality of stock come to the market. Looking ahead to 2017, price rises and a strong market in Newmarket and surrounding villages looks set to advance as we continue to benefit from the Cambridge ripple effect. Whilst we see predominantly a local market in Newmarket, we have also seen a number of purchasers from overseas. As the international home for horseracing, Newmarket's strict planning policies have kept new developments to a minimum which has exacerbated the shortage of available stock. Whilst we have marketed two new developments in around Newmarket in the past year, we don't anticipate a huge amount of development in the pipeline, which will result in prices continuing to grow. The town provides a huge range of property types, from one and two bedroom starter homes costing around £110,000 up to larger properties which sell in excess of £1m. Newmarket's surrounding villages are also some of the smartest in the country, attracting a range of buyers from those looking to commute into London or Cambridge or the wealthier members of the racing industry."

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Newmarket **£239,995**

We are delighted to bring this large four bedroom end of terrace family home to the market situated on the popular Studlands development. The property offers generous accommodation throughout and has an enclosed garden to the rear. Offered with no onward chain this is well worth a look. EPC C

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NEW PRICE

Brinkley **£325,000**

A rare opportunity to purchase a well presented three bedroom semi detached family home standing well back from the road backing onto a paddock. The property benefits from replacement double glazing and calor gas central heating along with a good sized garden. Offered with no upward chain this is well worth a look.

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NEW PRICE

Exning **OPEN TO OFFERS**

A fabulous opportunity to purchase a modern three bedroom semi detached family home located in the centre of this thriving village. The property has been well cared for over the years and has the benefit of a modern kitchen and bathroom along with double glazing and gas central heating. EPC D.

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NEW PRICE

EXNING **£215,000**

A nicely presented older style three bedroom terraced family home located at the edge of the village with views out to the front along with a large garden and off road parking. The property benefits from gas central heating. modern kitchen with integrated appliances, modern bathroom suite and double glazing. EPC D

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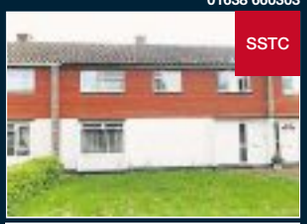
SSTC



Newmarket **£210,000**

A deceptively spacious three bedroom home close to the railway station. Offered with no onward chain, viewing is essential to appreciate the full potential of this home. EPC E

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SSTC

Newmarket **£199,995**

A three bedroom terrace bungalow situated on a popular development to the north of the town offering easy access to the A14. The property has been updated within recent times with the addition of a conservatory and a newly fitted kitchen and bathroom.

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Newmarket **£176,950**

A fabulous opportunity to purchase a spacious two bedroom first floor maisonette close to the station and town alike. The property benefits from gas central heating, Upvc double glazing and allocated parking. Viewing is essential to fully appreciate this home. EPC Rating C

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NEW

Newmarket **£239,950**

A cleverly extended three bedroom semi detached family home located within a traffic free cul de sac close to the town and all facilities. The property is well presented having been recently re-decorated and benefiting from a new combination boiler. There is large garden to the rear making an ideal family home.

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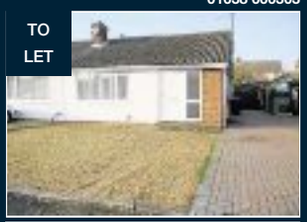
TO LET



Cambridge **£1,100**

Beautifully refurbished 2 bedroom bungalow on the north side of the city. Re-decorated throughout, new carpets and cooker. Front and rear garden. Sorry no pets No Smokers.

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TO LET

Newmarket **£740**

Charming two bedroom cottage conveniently located for access to the Town centre. Delightful Living room, dining room leading to kitchen, bathroom, gas radiator heating, partial double glazing. small front and courtyard style rear garden. No Pets No smokers. Available early FEB.

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Wheels

You're happier and safer in a brightly coloured car

BRIGHT coloured cars can pay double dividends for motorists according to new research being flagged up by Honda.

Apparently, driving a car with a stand out paint job is not only safer but it can also make you feel happier.

Researchers at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, have found that orange cars are among the safest on the road.

Other light or bright shades such as yellow, white and silver are also less likely to be involved in an accident while black and grey cars were considered less safe.

Experts put the higher accident rate down to the cars being less visible, especially in poor weather or low light.

That follows on from a study by psychologists who found there was a strong link between colours and personality – again highlighting orange and yellow as colours most popular with extroverts and satisfied people.

HONDA: Staying on the bright side has dividends

The research contained on the psychology website verywell.com says that orange is a colour that brings to mind feelings of excitement, enthusiasm, and warmth, while yellow is cheery and warm and can even increase the metabolism.

Honda says the colourful findings justify the latest finishes being offered on its Jazz supermini which now include bright orange and yellow paint jobs.

Phil Webb, head of cars at Honda UK, said: "Colours such as Sunset Orange and Attract Yellow Pearl add more than just character. They're statistically safer, much more visible on darker days, and they help lift the moods of everyone around them."

Honda is currently offering the third generation Jazz from £13,645 or with PCP packages starting at £169 a month.

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Buy early in 2017 to beat April tax hikes

A BOOM in car sales is on the cards for early 2017 if buyers are to beat new car tax rules that will hike the cost of owning some of Britain's most popular cars from April.

It's all because of changes which will see some models in bestselling ranges like the Ford Fiesta, Vauxhall Astra and Nissan Qashqai lose their current exemption from road tax.

And signs are growing that many car buyers are bringing their purchase plans forward to try to beat the change. When recently asked in an online retail survey of 1,000 motorists when they plan to buy their next car, the number saying it would be in the next three months had doubled since six months previously.

Dozens of models that are currently exempt will start to attract £400 in tax charges over three years, when a new Treasury scheme comes into place on April 1, affecting any new car registered after that date.

But in the most extreme cases some buyers who choose a car which is currently tax exempt will be charged almost £1,000 over three years.

VAUXHALL ASTRA: Price adjustment

Buyers of Britain's cheapest cars will also be targeted by the new system, which will increase tax bills by more than 900 per cent in some cases, compared to the current regime.

If you spend £5,995 on Britain's cheapest car, a Dacia Sandero, you'll currently pay nothing in tax for the first year, and £30 every subsequent year.

But the new car tax system will charge owners £160 for the first year and £140 every year after that, which is a 633 per cent increase.

Some Volkswagen up! owners currently pay just £40 in tax over the first three years. Owners who buy one of those cars after April 1 will pay £420 over the same period – a £950 per cent increase.

"Anyone buying a car after April next year could be in for a massive shock," said Austin Collins, managing director of BuyaCar.co.uk.

Retailers are already reporting that buyers are changing their cars early to ensure that they are delivered and on the road before April 1 next year. This will ensure that they are taxed under the current regime until they are scrapped.

And dealerships have also seen a big rise in the number of people planning to change their car within the next three months – but it's possible that some will be unable to beat the change, thanks to the time it takes to receive a new car from the time it is ordered.

Get your thinking cap on for 2017!

GOLF GTI: One of Volkswagen's true icons is being reinvented for 2017

Volkswagen's new Golf GTI ready for debut

AS 2016 winds to a close Volkswagen in the UK is looking back on a difficult 12 months with the fallout of the emissions scandal –which first came to light in September 2015 – continuing to pose problems both financial and technological.

The German marque is obviously keen to turn the focus back on its products and the fightback has continued with the celebration of one of the brand's genuine automotive icons: the Golf GTI.

40 years ago a small group of German engineers, managers and, above all, motoring enthusiasts came together to create what was quickly to become a motoring phenomenon – the original Golf GTI.

Initially engineered as an enthusiast project, it soon became clear after the first Golf GTI hit showrooms in 1976 that the brand's initial predictions of 5,000 sales might have been somewhat conservative.

Today – seven generations and more than two million sales later – the Golf GTI still engenders avid interest from enthusiast owners, and would-be owners, around the world.

With a new Golf GTI due to debut in 2017 boasting more power, enhanced technology, refreshed styling and more equipment than ever before the future looks bright, too, for one of Volkswagen's true icons.

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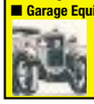
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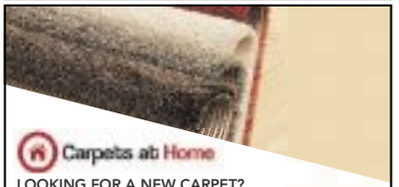

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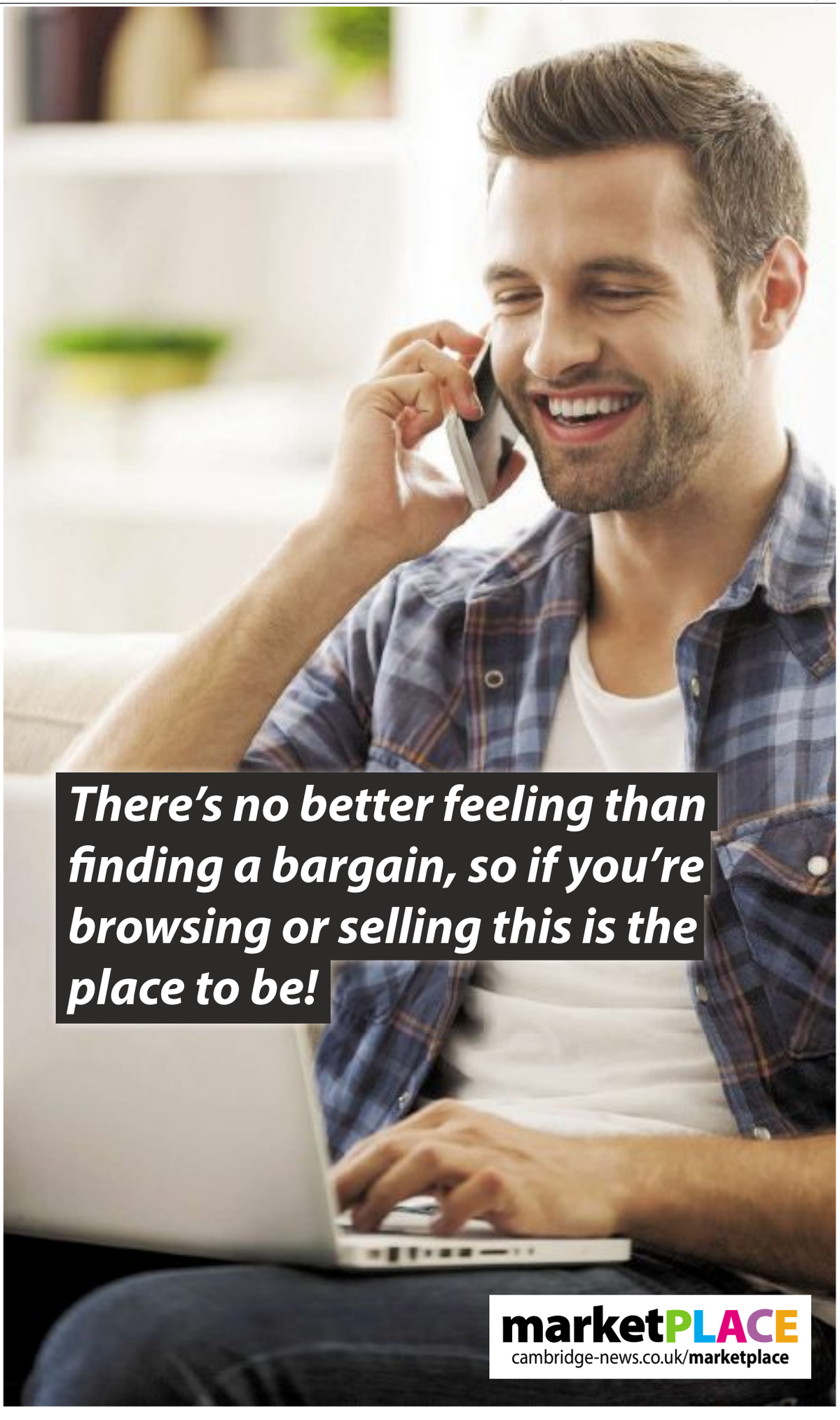

NEWMARKET SPORT

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HIGHLIGHT: Queen's Trust, ridden by Frankie Dettori, wins the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf at Santa Anita
Picture: Getty Images

A landmark year for Cheveley Park

THE red, white and blue silks of Cheveley Park Stud are among the most distinguished in Flat racing circles and over the years have become synonymous with many major-race winners.

While no strangers to success, the 2016 season will be one that stands out as being one of the most significant the David and Patricia Thompson-owned operation has ever enjoyed.

Having surpassed the best overall total of 58 following the victory of Spatial at Newmarket on August 26, a spellbinding season was crowned in November when Queen's Trust provided a first Breeders' Cup winner in the Filly & Mare Turf.

Managing director Chris Richardson said: "We had a few quiet years, which happens to everyone in racing, but we knew we had some with Sir Michael (Stoute) and others that had showed us plenty, like Queen's Trust.

"Clive Cox was also very sweet on Zonderland, so it had the air of potentially being a competitive season.

"August was an incredible month. We had 18 winners which was phenomenal and we surpassed our best total of 58 which was rather fitting.

"Prize-money both home and

Racing

abroad was over £2.4million and we finished seventh in the British owners' table with 78 wins, which was the icing on the cake."

As with every year there are winners that mean more than others, and having not had a runner at America's most recognised meeting since the fatal injury sustained by Funfair in the Breeders' Cup Mile 11 years ago, the victory of Queen's Trust provided that exact moment, with Frankie Dettori at his brilliant best.

Richardson added: "Queen's Trust was a filly Sir Michael has always believed in and she confirmed that ability in America.

"She had been a bit unlucky in running but had been performing well all season. However, it all came together in America.

"Sir Michael Stoute is a genius. He said we needed to persuade Mr and Mrs Thompson to go to America, as she deserved to take her chance in the Breeders' Cup.

"Frankie gave her a great ride and you could see her determination. I've had some phenomenal moments with Cheveley Park Stud, but that rates right at the top."

While the victory of Queen's Trust at Santa Anita was the undoubted highlight of a year blessed with numerous Pattern-race winners, there were plenty of other names that played an integral part in helping the Newmarket based outfit hit the heights on home shores.

Richardson said: "We won four Group Three races and six Listed races, including a Royal Ascot winner, which showed we were competitive at that level, while Twilight Son, who we bought into last year, gave us another Royal Ascot Group One winner in the silks of breeders and joint-owners Godfrey and Caroline Wilson.

"On Her Toes who we bought in Ireland was very progressive, as was Red Box, while Spangled was another that just kept progressing to end up winning a Group Three.

"Glitter Girl is a tiny little tot and she was the one that did better than we dared hope.

"When she went into training William Haggas said 'there is not a lot of her so we better crack on'. She ended up finishing fourth in the Rockfel and second in the Oh So Sharp.

"Persuasive was brought along beautifully over the year by John Gosden to give her the confidence to achieve what she did by winning at Royal Ascot and then the Atalanta Stakes before finishing second in the Matron Stakes."

Away from the racecourse records also tumbled in the sales ring, while first season sire Mayson highlighted that when the day comes to retire the prolific stallion Pivotal, he could prove to be a more than adequate replacement to fill that void.

Richardson said: "The sales division worked as well as ever, with all the yearling colts being in high demand this year.

"Having sold Seven Heavens for 620,000 guineas in 2015 we hit a new top price for a yearling when selling the Frankel colt out of Peeress for 1.3million guineas to MV Magnier and partners.

"Pivotal turns 24 in January and he will cover between 60 to 65 mares next year. He is in great heart and he will tell us when he is ready to stop. To have sired 26 Group One winners and 137 stakes winners in a career spanning that many years is a piece of history.

"I think Mayson is an exciting stallion, though. He had 18 two-year-old winners this year and three individual stakes winners, with seven individual Stakes horses."

Football

Jockeys off to a flyer in 2017

NEWMARKET Town got 2017 off to a flying start with a 6-1 thrashing of Hadleigh United in the Thurlow Nunn League, Premier Division.

Hadleigh took the lead in the 12th minute after a fine move enabled them to slice through the Jockeys' defence.

But the home side regained their composure and began to apply pressure on the Hadleigh back line.

And in the 25th minute, Lewis Whitehead levelled the scores when he headed home from five yards from Austen Diaper's cross.

Diaper was causing all sorts of problems, and in the 34th minute he won a penalty when he was bundled to the ground.

Jack Watson slammed the spot kick home, and then netted again on the stroke of half time after good work by Whitehead to make it 3-1 at the break.

Hadleigh pushed forward at the start of the second half but were unable to create any clear chances.

In the 72nd minute, Diaper increased the lead to 4-1 with a close-range effort, and Deakan Napier then set up new signing James Tricks to make it 5-1.

An own goal completed the scoring.

Leaders **Mildenhall Town** suffered only their second defeat of the season when they went down 2-1 at Ipswich Wanderers.

Athletics

Great display from Pollard

NEWMARKET Joggers' Hannah Pollard rounded off 2016 in style with an excellent run in the Great Barrow Challenge Marathon.

She finished the race in 3hr 56min 12sec and was the second female home and eighth overall out of more than 100 runners that completed the marathon section.

Several Joggers competed in the Ely New Year's 10k in Little Downham.

Paul Dockerill finished 64th out of more than 600 runners in a personal best 41.32.

Lisa Jennings (55.16), Sarah Sales (56.54) and Sally Nicholson (59.42) also recorded personal bests

Other Joggers completing the run were Jeremy Reader, Richard Jones, Mike Sales, Hannah Pollard, Lisa Redman, Helen Wass, Jim Withers, Miles Johnson, Zvetlana Zinchenko, Alice Leadbeter, Lynda McCormack, Lisa Winnington, Mary Marsh, Pearl Fay, Emma Townsend, Carol McIntosh, Gillie Green and Philip Green.

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